EUROPE.

The Debate on the Irish Church Bill in the English Parliament.

The Strike in the English Cotton Manufactories

WAR FEELING IN FRANCE.

Basis for the Settlement of the Franco-Belgian Dispute.

The North German Lloyd steamship Hansa, Captain Breckenstein, from Hamburg 20th via Southampton the 23d uit., arrived at this port yesterday. She brings details of our cable telegrams up to dates of

The French Chamber has passed the bill which fixes the army contingent at 100,000 men for the present year.

Prince Gortschakoff, Russian Prime Minister, has contracted for 700,000 needle-guns (system Baranow), to be delivered with as little delay as possible. The Parisian journals say that the Minister of War has made preparations for calling to the flag at any moment the 140,000 men on conge. The English papers of the 23d uit, say that a terri-

ole colliery explosion has taken place in the Stable Pit, Nantygio, Monmouthshire. Nine men were severely burnt, one of whom died shortly afterwards, and three others are not expected to live.

A large quantity of gas had accumulated in consequence of a doorway having been left open too long.

The railroad from the Piræus to Athens has been

naugurated and thrown open to the public. The Commission to be appointed for the settlement of the dispute between France and Belgium will be composed of twelve members, six French and six Belgian, chosen by the two governments from among the most competent and practical persons.

The commercial relations between Greece and Tur-key are again becoming very active. The return of e Cretans continues on a large scale. The French transport Jura is employed in that service, and has

lready made several voyages. The Prussian journals state that a Protestant jubilee is to be held next autumn at Berlin, to form a counterpoise to the council to assemble at Rome. A preparatory meeting is to to take place at Worms after Whitsuntide.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies concluded on March 20 the discussion of the naval estimate for 1869, adopting all augmentations proposed by the committee, and thereby bringing the total to 34,596,205 lire, or 3,288,897 more than was demanded by the Ministry.

The French journals generally applaud the pro posed British legislation on the Irish Church. They ay that the Irish Church has long been a blot or the banner of freedom which England holds on high for the world's admiration. There are hundreds of Frenchmen who to this day believe the Irish to be the most persecuted people in Europe.

The Progrès Egyptien, of Alexandria, has been

suspended for a month on account of publishing a political chronique, and for having criticized the Viceroy's speech and the financial condition of the

marriage of a priest, on the grounds that priests have the same rights as other citizens, that the civil code only is sovereign and that the law has nothing The report of the Committee on the French Budget

contains the following statement:-"The govern-ment desires peace, and the committee has received a formal declaration from the representatives of the Emperor to the effect that there are no circumstances whatever calculated to awaken any apprehensions. Peaceful views govern the situation."

A commercial treaty is expected to be signed shortly between the North German Confederation and Switzerland. Swiss delegates are about to set out for Berlin to resume the negotiations suspended

A royal decree has been published in Italy ordering an inquiry to be instituted into the cause of the dis-turbances which broke out recently in the central Italian provinces against the collection of the grist

A demonstration took place at Barcelona on the 21st ultimo against free trade, and a petition setting forth the views of the antagonists has been present ed to the Governor for transmission to the Constitu-

M. Louis Uloach, an eminent French journalist, was recently fined 300 francs for stating that the name Napoleon was derived from two Greek words, which signified hangman. The Public Minister it to the Imperial Court. The result is that Ulbach's fine has been raised to 500 francs, and, in addition, he is to suffer six months' imprisonment. M. Ulbach is a candidate for the representation of

ENGLAND.

The Debate on the Irish Church Bill in the British Parliament.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Irish Church bill, in the House of Commons, on Monand instantly torose up. In capitain and three general say, March 2, was opened by Sir R. Palmer. Prefacing his spech with the remark that most of the motives which induced buman nature led him to give his support to the government on this bill, and that if he took a different course it was the result of an overwhell minduced by the provided of the day, March 22, was opened by Sir R. Palmer. Prefacing his spech with the remark that most of the

the operation of penal laws and bad government that had prevented the expansion of the Church and now the State was about to tue to the and divert the funds of local command divert the funds of local command the control of the cont

statute book and their own minds all notion of social inferiority based on a man's creed.

Mr. WALPOLE here moved the adjournment of the debate, the effect of which was to evoke from Mr. Greene a spirited protest against prematurely hurrying to a division. The proposal of the government, he said, was fraught with dishonesty. It degraded the Protestant Church at the bidding of Romish priests. He was not ashamed to raise the cry of "No Popery," and he denounced the measure as a robbery as great as had ever been committed.

The debate was then adjourned to next day.

The Strike of the Preston Cotton Operatives. The London Star of the 23d nit, has the following about the strike of the cotton hands:—

about the strike of the cotton hands:—

With the continuance of the lamentable strike of the cotton operatives at Preston the excitement in the district increases. On Sunday a meeting of sixty-seven delegates from surrounding districts was held for the purpose of considering the advisability of continuing the strike. Their deliberations lasted six hours, during which it was elicited that the operatives generally sympathized with the Preston hands in their resistance to the proposed reduction of 10 per cent. Resolutions were passed promising support to them during the struggle, and it was agreed that no paid delegates should be employed while it iasted. It is said that from seven to ten shillings per head has been apportlened from local union funds for those on strike in the spinning and weaving departments. The Manchester Ezaminer says it is distinctly stated that the bulk of the masters are, and have been for some time, losing money. In about three weeks, unless some concession be made by the operatives, nearly 16,000 of them will be thrown out of work. The aggregate number of operatives in Preston is about 30,000.

Heavy Gales—Dreadful Shipping Disasters.

A telegram in the Liverpool Post from Plymouth, March 21, gives the following account of the effects of the recent great storm:—Accounts continue to be received, showing Friday night's gale to have been the most violent and destructive during the last thirty years. The Ann Jones, of and from Plymouth for Cardinf, went ashore near Thitagel, Cornwall, and instantly broke up. The captain and three men climbed the precipitous cliffs, and were saved. Four others were drowned. A schooner, name unknown, went ashore on the same spot, and all the crew persished. At Padstow the Prussian bark Devitz has been wrecked, and all the crew are supposed to be drowned. The Austrian brig Flaven, from Falmouth for Gloucester, went ashore at the same port. The crew were saved. The Ocean, of Penzance, foundered in the Bristol Channel. The crew of the Syiph, which vessel foundered off St. Agnes, were seen by hundreds, for a long time, struggling in the waves, but they eventually disappeared. The schooner Briesloe, of St. Ives, was wrecked near Padstow; three of the crew were drowned. The Mercury, of Lianelly, for Dieppe, went ashore at St. Ives; the crew were saved by the lifeboat, after a galiant struggle. A schooner of Barnstaple (Topham master), went in pieces two miles west of Portreath, and the crew, six in number, met with a watery grave. Four small vessels foundered or went ashore in Torobay, of Britkham; fortunately those on board were saved. Eight issien barges sank simultaneously of Bideford, and two crews were drowned. Heavy Gales-Dreadful Shipping Disasters.

its own mind, which had let sitp one great opportunity of making var, was looking out for another, and yet had not the courage to take any great resolution. I will not be so cruel as to ask the government what its foreign policy is. I will say nothing of the encouragement which it gave to Prussia, or of the famous theory of "three zones" in Germany. Itsu I think it right to ask which way it is going. Does it mean peace or war? Will it do nothing to put a stop to that state of things which makes the public say every autumn, "We shall have war in the autumn?" At present our one million two hundred thousand men are a cause, not of aiarm, but of astonishment to the world. If we have no other object than to hold M. Bis marck in check and to rival the armaments of Prussia we are condemned to the system of militarism in perpetuity. From 1853 to 1866 the army and navy of France have cost nine miliarism in perpetuity. From 1853 to 1866 the army and navy of France have cost nine miliarism in perpetuity. From 1853 to 1866 the army and navy of France have cost nine miliarism in perpetuity. From 1853 to 1866 the army and navy of France have cost nine miliarism in perpetuity. From 1853 to 1866 the army and say of france have cost nine miliarism of the same period amount to but 320,385,000 francs. Why had not the government understool that science, progress and liberty were more effectual means of attack and defence than all this vast expenditure in brilliant uniforms? France was but a small spot on she map of Europe, and it was a most false and pernicious theory that her strength and influence consisted in the numbers of her standing army. The law was one of mere useless militarism, which oppressed the country and left it in a state of constant uncertainty."

In reply Marshal Niel, Minister of War, expressed his surprise at the attacks which were being made against the military law, which was necessary to the security of the country, He added:—"The reorganization of the army is nearly complete. If any pressing danger were to

The French Press on England's Position in

Reference to America and Russin. Confirming the opinion expressed by our London correspondent in the letter published in the Herald of the 27th ult., the Elendard of Paris, of the 18th ult., under the title of "La France et l'Angleterre," publishes an article tending to prove that England ought to remain firmly united to France, espe as no cause of difference exists between the two countries. The writer insinuates in the following that England is hard pressed by both the United

that England is hard pressed by both the United States and Prussia:—

In America we find the British lion prostrate at the felt of the settlers of that country, and in so humble an attitude that it does not dare to raise its voice in defence of its dearest interests. Chained down by the Alabama difference and by the geographical position of Canada, England has not sufficient strength to intervene in the question of the Isthmus of Darien, the concession of which will give a mortal blow to her commerce on the Pacific. The British statesmen have well comprehended all the importance of the case, but they dare not say a word in the matter, as England cannot resist the United States.

Persia has also become Russian, and on that point also Great Britain has been obliged to yield up her influence before the Colossus of the North, now extending her ramifications to the Persian gulf. In fine, the disorganization of the Ottoman empire, and particularly in its Asiatic provinces, will permit Russia to advance, on the first breath of war, as far as the Mediterranean before even going to Constantinople. On that day India is lost, for the Suez route will be intercepted.

It can be inferred from this that the situation of

It can be inferred from this that the situation of England in Asia is anything but good, and the last few years have doubtiess witnessed many important changes on that Continent. Formerly England did beyond Khiva; now they are close on to the confines of the English possessions.

FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

The Franco-Belgian Difficulty-The Dispute gramme of Negotiations.

gramme of Negotiations.
[Brussels (March 20) correspondence of the London Herald.]
Yesterday M. Van der Suchilen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Beigium, officially informed Viscount de La Guerroniere that his government had accepted the French proposals. The French Minister at Brussels at once telegraphed the fact to Marquis de Lavalette, who soon after, and in the name of the Emperor and of his government, expressed to the Beigian Minister at the Tulteries their lively satisfaction at the result of the negotiations, viscount de La Guerronière has made a similar communication to the Belgian government.

pressed to the Beigian Minister at the Tulieries their ively satisfaction at the result of the negotiations. Viscount de La Guerrouière has made a similar communication to the Beigian government.

And since the basis of the programme to be discussed by the France-Beigian Commission have been already agreed to, it may be already inferred that the disquieting difference which had arisen between France and Beigium is virtually at an end.

The following information relative to the course and the progress of the negotiations which have led to the protocol drawn up yesterday, will foretell the basis of the arrangement arrived at:—

The French government proposed that a Franco-Beigian Commission should meet at Paris to inquire into the Beigian-Luxembourg Railway, and the French Eastern line. The Beigian government accepted that proposal in principle, but pointed out that the programme to be discussed at it ought to be proviously settled. Each government drew up a programme.

The Beigian government proposed that the France-Tue Beigian proposed that the France-Tue Beigian proposed that the France-Tue Beigian government drew up a programme.

previously sected. Page 50 per programme.

The Belgian government proposed that the Franco-Belgian Commission should be entrasted with the task of inquiring into the means of facilitating and improving the industrial and commercial relations between both countries.

The French Cabinet, having always in view the starting point of the incident, proposed that the commissioners should examine the economic alwandards or inconveniences resulting from the railway

tages or inconveniences resulting from the ranway convention.

The French government objected to the Belgian proposals, as being couched in terms too vague and susceptible of being interpreted either too widely or too closely; it did not insist upon the validity of those conventions, but asserted that they might possibly be the object of modification necessitating a new inquiry.

The Belgian government supported its proposal by the necessity of defending its economic interests. Then the French government made another proposal, embodying the two first; that is to say, that the programme to be submitted to the mixed commission should comprehend an inquiry into the conventions concluded between the two railway companies, and also into the best means of improving the economic relations between both countries.

The Belgian government assected to the last proposal.

It is a fact that her Majesty Queen Victoria

posal.

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posal.

It is a fact that her Majesty Queen Victoria wrote an autograph letter to the Emperor Napoleon and to King Leopold II., when that difference threatened to assume more serious proportions, owing to the insults and menaces hurled at Beigium by the semi-official papers of Faris. From what has transpired those letters strikingly prove the deep solicitude of her Majesty for the preservation of peace and for the independency and weifare of the little cousin kingdom.

Our Foreign Office has not taken any direct steps in the matter and could not do so, because Beigium's neutrality was never menaced by France. The French Emperor is too wise to entertain such ideas, however cherished they may be by some of his subjects. But in the diplomatic world it is no secret that in the pourpariers exchanged at London between Lord Clarendon and certain foreign representatives, at Brussels and at Paris, between our ambassador and the Belgian and French Ministers for Foreign Affairs, the English government displayed much tact and also a conciliatory spirit which cannot be construed, far from it, either as apathetic to Beigium, or condescending to the peace at any price section of our cabinet.

ITALY.

Rumors of a Secret Franco-Italian Alliance-

Rumors of a Secret Franco-Italian Ailiance—
The War Cloud—Italy Not Auxious to Take
a Part in European Complications.
[Florence, March 19. Correspondence London Mornling Herald.]
Rumors of a secret alliance with France, in view
of events which unhapply seem but too probable,
are of course once more in the ascendant; but until
the contrary be proved in such a manner as to exclude all doubt, I shall persist in believing that no
Italian government will wantonly sacrifice the advantages offered by the only policy at once in accordance with the interests and with the dignity of the nation—a policy of strict neutrality! Although, as I have said, the great body
of the nation is irritated against France, and
would grieve to see Prussia worsted in aconflict with
ner rival (indeed, I continually hear the sentiment
expressed in a still more foreible manner, still, it is
indisputable that France has her adherents who are
ready to lift their voices loudy in her behalf when
the fitting moment shall arrive. But the very existence of these opposing currents seems of itselt sufficient to prevent the stream from flowing in any one
direction, and thus to afford a guarantee for the
avoidance of any meddlesome participation in events
from which no advantage can be expected to accrue
to italy, whatever be their issue. It is evident that
whether she made the French or the Prussian quarrel her own I hasy would have no
heart for her work, and that her lukewarm
assistance would be at best but a dubious boon to
her aily. The Diritto of this evening, amid the
silones of the purely ministerial organs, has a somewhat remarkable article, revealing the existence of
certain distressing doubts with regard to the tendencies of the proyen ministerial organs, has a somewhat remarkable article, revealing the existence of
certain distressing doubts with regard to the tendencies of the proyen ministerial organs, has a somewhat remarkable article, revealing the existence of
certain distressing doubts with regard to the ten-

our forefathets destroyed at the cost of their blood.

The Diritto then declares itself equally opposed to the military preponderance of Germany, and insists upon the advantages derivable from a close alliance with Austria, remodelled according to the exigencies of the time, "a monarchical Switzerland, formed by the union of liberty and tradition."

The question, what is to be done should circumstances absolutely compelitally to draw the sword, is reserved by the Diritto for a second article. But it is not easy to foresee what its decision is to be, considering how liberally the lash of the journalist has been plied on either side. But France has, on the whole, come in for the heavier share of the puntshment.

BELGIUM.

Terrible Explosion and Loss of Life.

A terrible explosion took place at Saintes, near Hal, in Beigium, on the 17th inst., in the premises of M. Joachim Havaux, a large flax manufacturer. He and his son were superintending the workmen in the morning, when an explosion shattered the walls and forced off the roof. The son was thrown down, and the father, with the exception of his head, was also buried in the ruins. The latter remained for some minutes in this dangerous position, and when extricated his left leg was found to be broken. The warchouse, which was full of flax, caught fire. Five workmen were also burned in the ruins. Spiring remnert was the first body found. Adele de Spigelier and Mathilde Borremans, when discovered, were found to be partly calicined. Hortense Lebacy and Leocadie Croiseaux were discovered later in the day. All were dead. The boiler of the steam engine was thrown 130 metres from its position, and a row of trees which it struck was completely shattered. M. Havaux is in a very dang crous state. Terrible Explosion and Loss of Life.

FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Mazzini has published a work entitled a "Political Testament to the Italians." A magnificent silver crown has been purchased by subscription in England and deposited on the tomb

of the late Emperor Maximillian.

A woman residing in Liverpool tried to kill her husband recently by pouring paraffin oil over him and then setting fire to his clothes.

and then setting fire to his clothes.

The Duke of Argyll, Secretary for the Indian Department, is said to have placed his youngest son in a London commercial house in the tea trade.

The recent violent hallstorms in the south of France are reported to have done much damage to the fruit crops, especially in the district of Aix, Provence.

On the Prince Imperial's birthday the Pope sent him the apostolic benediction by telegraph, to which the Emperor of the French returned his cordial ac-knowledgment.

Fresh troubles have occurred at Borgo San Donino near Bologna, Italy, on account of the mill tax, and several companies of troops have been despatched to suppress them.

The Municipal Council of Berlin proposes to give all primary education gratis, and will for that pur-pose include the sum of 40,000 thalers in the budget of city expenses. The soldiers in Prussia whose terms of service ex-

The soldiers in Prussin whose the last of the pires in the ensuing autumn are to be sent home next June—should nothing serious occur by which their services will be required. Calcraft, the English executioner, has been engaged by the authorities to apply the "cat" to convicted garroters, when he has any time to spare from his more serious occupation.

The Paris Figuro classifies the Spanish press of Madrid as follows:—Fifteen journals for the Duke of Montpensier, five for the Iberical Union, six republican, two for Don Carlos and two for Isabelia.

Progress of Pacification-Salnave's Cause Reported Successful-Condition of the Cacos.

PORT AU PRINCE, March 20, 1869. The successes of the regular government continue. The President has been away from here now ten days, in the neighborhood of Gonaives, where he is bravely defending his cause. A series of successes repulsed on every side. Their principal position in the siege of Gonaives, Fort Bienae, which commanded that town, has been captured from them by the regular troops under General Victorin Chevalier, the guns spiked and the fort entirely destroyed. This is a heavy blow for the Cacos in the vicinity of Gonaives. The Haytien corvette, Alexandre Petion remains before Aux Cayes actively besieging that town. The interior of the South is now nearly entirely reopened to travel and traffic, the cities still in possession of the rebellion being actively besieging that town is now the only open port in the South. A small schooner arrived here three days ago, having offered here cargo at Jacomel, Aux Cayes and Jeremie, and in bether town was there money nor produce sufficient to purchase it. The port of St. Marc is the only one heid by the rebels where there is any business doing. Before the successes of the government at Gonaives and the capture of Fort Bienae some apprehension was felt here and exchange and produce were pushed by speculators to a very high figure. Since the news arrived here of these successes more security is felt and trade will probably soon attain its usual proportions. repulsed on every side. Their principal position in

its usual proportions.

The Haytien gunboat Sainave is before Gonalves with the President. Heavy deliveries of coffee from the coast still continue, and will undoubtedly remain so for about two months before the crop is expensed.

THE COLLECTORSHIP OF ALASKA. A Pointed Letter from Hiram Ketchum, of this City.

A Pointed Letter from Hiram Ketchum, of this City.

To the Editor of the National Intelligences:—
In your paper of Friday last, under the head "From Alaska," is the following paragraph, which was published also in Now York and other papers:—
Indignation is expressed by the residents of Alaska at the conduct of Ketchum, the Collector of Customs. It was hoped that he would be relieved from that department, where he only obstructed commerce.

The person here attacked is now in Sitka, several thousand miles distant; he is a native of this city, with a numerous young family now residing in Brooklyn; he is my cidest son, the inheritor of my name. From what I know of his official conduct I feel authorized, in I know of his official conduct I feel authorized, in the absence of the late collector, to deny the accusations made in the above extract. It is not true that indignation is expressed by the residents of Alaska at the conduct of Ketchum. It is utterly false that it was hoped by the residents of Alaska "that he would be relieved from that department, where he only obstructed commerce." The whole statement I pronounce a malicious libel upon an absent citizen, who it was known by the writer could not, by reason of his absence, reply.

Mr. Kotchum is, indeed, relieved from the office of Collector of Customs. The facts in respect to his case are briefly those:—He was appointed to that office by the late President in September last; not for any party reasons or in consequence of any party influence, but because at a time when fears were entertained by some that the House of Representatives would not make the appropriation for the purchase of Alaska, stipulated to be made by the treaty, Hiram Ketchum, Jr., wrote and published an elaborate article, demonstrating the obligation and duty of the House to make such appropriation. The appropriation would not make the appropriation for the purchase of the south as a second made by the Senate, at the close of the ensuring session of this body, 4th Marchinston was afterwards vot

ment, and which I was permitted to read on Thursday last.

The nomination of collector was sent by President Johnson to the Senate. It was referred to the Committee on Commerce. In a correspondence with the charman of that committee (Senator Chandler) he informed me that in his judgment a majority of the Senate would not consent to take up President Johnson's nominations. In this opinion the Secretary of the Treasury concurred. The Senate did not consider the nomination of collector for Alaska; the nomination was neither confirmed nor rejected. This non-action was equivalent to a rejection, although, perhaps, not so intended by the Senate. The office of collector therefore, became vacant, and my son was left out in the cold, in lattice fifty-seven degrees north, on the Pacific coast, with permission to return to his far distant home at his own expense. He perfiled his life to execute the legitimate orders of his government; he served that government with undisputed Edeity and ability. It was not the first time he had perfiled his hie in the service of his country; yet the government of that country, whose the perhied his hie in the service of his country; yet the government of that country shoria itself. The vacancy in the collectorship of Alaska was filled by the President and Senate on Friday last—food Friday. On Saturday the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury told me in his office that this appointment was made in no spirit of hostility or unfriendliness to my son, but that the place being vacant was filled by a person who had acryed in the army, at the instance of those interested in Alaska. The friends of my son, not few in number, will read with interest this plain statement of facts, and will not, it is hopped, permit themselves to forget the banished, though be should never return to his native city and State.

PARIS FASHIONS.

sent—Description of the Conference Cham-ber—The Queen of Fashion—Her Appear-ance and Her Tellet—The Fashion Pronun-ciamento for 1869.

Contrary to every precedent in history the Fashion of 1869 held the first meeting for the promuigation of the coming spring fashions at her own private conference. The only explanation given by her for conference. The only explanation given by her for this arbitrary measure was that as the affairs of Europe in general, and those of Greece in particular, had been settled by five plenipotentiaries to the satisfaction of all the Powers, and without any damage to their physical organs, supported as they were through their arduous task by frequent banquets, in like manner she surmised that the de-bates on ladies' attire could be concluded by six dignitaries—one more than was allowed for the East-ern question. Haif a dozen envoys consequently on account of the jewellers and the Polonaise basquines; one for Prussia, on account of the Bis-marcks, which are maintained; one for England, on account of the hosiery, which is quite a visible feaaccount of the absery, which is quite a visible rea-ture; one for Austria, on account of all the Hungarian styles and Magyar pastes for mustaches; one for Turkey, on account of the harem intricacles, and one for America, on account of the destructure which is to be applied to the general styles. Although veracity compels me to state that I was one of the worthy representatives I need not disclose which

Power I represented.

It cannot be denied that we all experienced great curiosity when we met in the reception salon before the entrance of our sovereign. Few of us had seen her by broad daylight, unless at the Bois, and then only partially and by glimpses. We knew she was gifted with a fine voice and excellent address, from the applause bestowed on her acting in charades; with a fine figure, from the admiration elicited by her tableaux vivants at court; with a vivid imaginapond and at the races; but we knew nothing of her in a privy council as a speaker and diplomatist—faculties which are indispensable to a woman of the

While the Envoy from Turkey was blowing his outward signs of more inward content than he and while the two representatives from Prussia and Austria were scanning each other's broadcloth from top to toe, I, with another ambassador, looked round, he turning over Fashion's music, "Faust," "Folie a Rome," "Vert-vert," and I admiring the decoration of the saton. It was hung with purple velvet: the mouldings were of delicate cream color and gold. In each medallion of gilt was the portrait, executed in Gobelin tapestry, of the heroines under Louis XIV. The ceiting was painted to represent Olympia, all azure blue and surrounded with gold fret work. Six gilt and purple velvet empire chairs were placed round the central table and one high-backed throne chair of the same for Fashion. The carpet was of white moquette strewn with purple bouquets and very light gray leaves. The fringe round the table cover was gold, cream color and different shades of purple mixed. Large china vases on gilt bronze tripods filled every window between the embroidered musiin curtains under the looped purple hangings lined with cream-colored silk. An old Sevres jardinére filled the centre of the conference table, in which were placed Farma violets, white iliac, jonquils and camelias. No knick-knacks were visible, for this was not a boudoir, and everything indicative of private tastes and pastimes had been carefully avolded. I was making this mental observation when I and my honorable colleague became aware that the Soverelgm was approaching, and, like and while the two representatives from Prussia rany avoiced. I was making this mental observa-tion when I and my honorable colleague became aware that the Sovereign was approaching, and, like automatons, we turned to the direction whence pro-ceeded a rustle of silk and the sweep of a train. One of Fashion's body guard preceded her in black, white necktle and powdered head. He announced "The Sovereign," and then stood back to the wall as flat as a sandwich with nothing but a bit of tongue between.

bowed, and then with quick step took her seat, and having done so, signed us to do likewise.

A word of description before her speech. The Fashion of 1869 is a blonde. She wears no large chignons, but coils of plaits, either pinned up like cable or disposed in loops or allowed to hang like bell pulls. Of an evening all these strands are let out; they flow in spirals or form a shower of feathery golden rain. Her totlet was the perfect model of our newest styles as to color and cut. She wore a train underskirt of citron raye, tinted with mauve, a large flounce on the cross, bordered with balais of the same, was headed with a double puif, frilled above and below. Over this a white cashmere tunic, looped encanargo, flounced with cashmere, which was bordered like the underskirt. The bodice was square, having a fichu of white suk tuile underneath and a ruff of Valenciennes all round. The sleeves were of two kinds, the under pair tight to the wrist and ending with a Valenciennes ruff; the over pair were very long. Jewish sleeves, hounced round like the over tunic, and lined with citron slik. An arabesque pattern was braided in the Oriental style with mauve and citron round the neck and behind, and round the bodice in front. Fashion's ornaments were a Florentine medallion of enamel, hung from a black velvet on her neck, a high comb of the same on the summit of her head and earrings on chains. Her hands were gloved with citron Danish skin. Ivory tablets, to which she referred during the following address, hung from a Media's chatelaine at her waist. Her skin is very clear and rendered dazzling by the artistic tracery of the "magic pencil," which imparts blue very clear and rendered dazzling by the artistic tracery of the "magic pencil," which imparts blue very clear and rendered dazzling by the artistic tracery of the "magic pencil," which imparts blue very clear and rendered dazzling by the artistic tracery of the "magic pencil," which imparts blue very clear and rendered dazzling by the artistic tracery of the constin

these accessories to the styles of the sixteenth century any more than the jerkin and plumed cap. Crinoline will be worn with trains, not with short costumes.

"The materials for usual wear are to be sultane, serge, alpaca, linen, lawn, mohairs, popilins, Valencias, Scotch merino and gray striped with satin in all shades. All these are to be ruched with slik taffeta, which ruches are pinked, fulled and drawn in different patterns. Nothing can be worn without founce, frill, plaits and rouleaux, whether casaques, peierines, camargos, over or under skirts; but, remember, I require full garments. No amount of trimming can make up for fulness and bunchiness. Foulards are again this summer to be a favorite material. The newest is the japonais, a tissue which to foulard is what corded slik is to thin taffeta. It is thick and in all shades. The hues of foulard which I prefer for spring are Veroness green, Suez blue, Montespan pink, Rubens blonde, Nie lotus, bronze, cigar, and all the stripes sprinkled with Foundatored which to reduce the sprinkled with Foundatour dowerets. Do not forget nezam or Indian red. Faye and taffeta are in their chameleon shades to vie with every tint of the occan under sunrise, indiday, twilight or moonbeam. Stripes are of two sorts. The old is the Marie Antoinette stripe, which seeks apposites in eccentricity; the modern and empire stripe is content with bright contrast. The former is suitable for underskiris, the latter for full costumes. There are also streaks of as many as thirty different shades to emulate with aurora behind silvery clouds. Bachelicks and polomaises, camargo basques with mantie ends in front, pelerines with searf ends and conchmen's capes are the black mantie arrangements to be worn over walking dresses, but all should follow suit. Sashes are to continue a great feature; the butterfly wings and eight loops without ends called 'sun-knot' are most bunchy. Hats are tandonos in straw, with created lace and flower diadeems. The almayiva mantie is the Spanish veil and flower ab

ime armament; rings, large ovals, set with pearls. Fans are to be painted water colors on silk and mounted on cedar or sandal wood.

"Gentlemen, you will observe that I do not mention reform—on the contrary, increased charges, lucreased quantities of material for frills and rucke; but reflect that we are imitating the times of the king who said he was the State, and we cannot derogate or suffer from comparison. See to it, gentlemen, for I am not responsible; I am above responsibility; should the people attack my government I shall look to one of you to denounce your own illegalities and irregularities, but the work of cutting up must be continued.

"The fashions of the rot solet are not to be scantily carried out. We have the spun purple, gold and brocade, the powder, the sedan chairs, the ambrosal bath and fumigated boudoirs. We are coming to our morning levées, to the times when we shall receive company while reclining in our couches under pink satin and lace. We are coming back to the scenes panied by Hogarit; so, gentlemen, brush up your loyalty, for when the crash comes I shall look to you for defence such as was not granted to Marie Antoinette in her troubles. And why I Because I am not a responsible party, and to you, gentlemen, will be laid all the biame."

This latter part of the speech was said with terrible vehemence. Fashion then rose, bowed and retired. Soon after all we plenipotentiaries left the salon for the banquet hall, and, though rather startled, feit as pacific towards each other as the dve who sat over the Eastern question, and constantly partook of champagne with just as much gusto.

LITERATURE.

Reviews of New Books.

THE NATIONAL QUARTERLY REVIEW. New York:
Edward J. Sears.

Taken all in all, the present number of the Na-

of being among the best reviews published in the United States. The opening article on "Diogenes the Cynic" is a forcibly written and ingenious de-fence of that philosopher. "The Turko-Greek Ques-tion" is an admirable paper, It is a thoughtfully, candid review of the recent troubles in the East, and the writer has had the good sense to ignore what is termed "popular prejudices," and take as impartial view of the situation. We have never aided in the wholesaie denunciations heaped upon Turkey because she happens to hold a religious faith and social ideas differing with our religion and social ideas. That the Turkish government has been most scandalously abused without meriting a tithe of the obloquy heaped upon it is very evident to all that have carefully studied history; and that an American reviewer can be found courageous enough to do Turkey justice is a gratifying indication of progressing independence on the part of our literary men. The review of "Beranger and His Songs" is good, as is also the paper entitled "Successive Conquests and Races of Mexico." We caunot, however, subscribe to all that is contained in the article on "Columbia College." It is to be deplored that the subject has been made the cover for a most unmerited adverse criticism upon the Jesuit Colleges of St. Francis Xavier and Fordnam—two of our best educational institutions. If the writer found it difficult to obtain admission into either of these colleges his has been an exceptional case, for we know that as a general rule any person, be he Cataolic or Protestant, can, upon application, not only obtain all the information he needs, but also visit these places at all times. "The Ruling Classes in England" and "Celtic Music" are excellently written. "President Grant and his Cabinet," is a forcible, interesting paper. The "Notices and Criticisms," when conclude the number, are written in the usual fair and impartial style.

Suudies in General Sciences. By Antoinette Browa Biackwell. New York: G. P. Putnam & Son, puband the writer has had the good sense to ignore

STUDIES IN GENERAL SCIENCES. By Antoinette Brown Blackwell. New York: G. P. Putnam & Son, pub-lishers.

This is a very aspiring work, written by a lady of stablished reputation for learning and ability. cannot, however, accord to it any high position in our literature. Mrs. Blackwell, it is true, has eviour literature. Mrs. Blackwell, it is true, has evidently carefully studied her subject, but she has furnished us with nothing new. Every idea embodied in her book has been given to the world already and repeatedly. The best, therefore, that we can say for "Studies in General Sciences" is that, ignoring those inevitable itaaies of all women writers, it is written in an easy, flowing style, and if it teaches nothing new, will doubtless interest and instruct many that have not hitherto studied the subject.

The Mines of the Wrst. A Report to the Secretary of the Treasury. By Rossiter W. Raymond. Pn. D., Commissioner of Mining Statistics. New York: J. B. Ford & Company.

Mr. Raymond has done well in publishing the very instructive and interesting report he made last

very instructive and interesting report he made last year to the Secretary of the Treasury. There is knowledge of the mineral resources of the West. That they are great we know, but all of our knowledge is vague and unsatisfactory. Unfortunately the American mind has not been directed so much to the development of all our mines as it has been to the development of those which will pay large prefits on the capital expended for their workings. We have not time to review at length the varied information which this report furnishes. Mr. Raymond takes a clear, scientific view of the subject. Everything relating to mining is discussed at length, the country is ably described and suggestions offered which, if followed, cannot, in our estimation, fail to benefit our mining interests.

The Last Athenia. Translated from the Swedish

THE LAST ATHRNIAN. Translated from the Swedish of Victor Rydberg, by W. W. Thomas, Jr., late United States Consul at Gothenburg, Sweden. Philadeiphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers.

We have glanced over the pages of this work with greater pleasure than we had expected on opening the book. It is a most agreeable historical novel, the scene of which is laid in Greece during the fourth century. Romance and reality, mythology and his-tory are well blended, forming a book which will be of the reminiscences it contains. So far as we can judge, having but a limited knowledge of the Swedish language, Mr. Thomas has performed the work of translation admirably.

Miscellancous

We have received from Messrs. Hurd & Houghton of New York, their reprint of "Othello," being one of their admirable series of Shakspeare's works.
We have also received from T. B. Peterson &
Brothers, of Philadelphia, copies of their cheap reprints of "The Talisman" and "The Highland
Widow," by Sir Walter Scott.

Mr. Nostrand's Eclectic Engineering Magazine, though still in its infancy, has become one of our ablest and most scientific publications. The April number before us, is full of excellent reading matter, which fully maintains the reputation won by their previous issues.

STREET OBSTRUCTIONS.

East Forty-ninth Street. TO THE EDIJOR OF THE HERALD:-

The condition of East Forty-ninth street, between Fifth and Madison avenues, calls for immediate action on the part of the proper authorities. Private solicita-tion has been useless, and a slight enumeration of tion has been useless, and a slight enumeration of the annoyances will convince any one that at this season further patience is out of the question. The street is well nigh impassable from neglect. A consection was made with the sewer months ago and the pavement is still unreplaced. The street has not been swept since last fail, and the heaps of dirt which had been collected have long since resolved themselves into the general chaos. Piles of building materials have been fung down at random, impeding travel in an unusual manner. As for the mud, pedestrians are deterred from calling in this neighborhood, since the walking is more like a country road just now than a fine street in a lash-lonable precinct of New York.

East Thirty-fifth Street.

To the Editor of the Herald:—

As you want Fifth avenue cleared, why not go the whole hog? In East Thirty-fifth street, between Second and Third avenues, is a builder's yard—No. 252. The yard is bad enough, but a large pile of brick, encroaching say three feet on the sidewalk and ten on the carriage way, has been standing for months, crowned with wooden horses and boards. Builders' and other wagons line the curbstone, to the great detriment of tenants and proprietors in a very respectable neighborhood—where a member of Congress lived but a short time ago, if not now, have builders more rights than owners or tenants? If so, let the public know. Second and Third avenues, is a builder's yard-No.

(Washington correspondence of Barnesville (Ohio) Enterprise.]

I watched General Grant for a half hour during service, and he appeared as a man so unused to dress and fashlon and conventionalities that this thing of attending church to be stared at made him unnappy. His sev wandered among the audience, darting from his half-open lids, as if seeking for some hole or corner through which other eves did not protrude, but in vain. He turned to the galleries, then to the preacher, then to the singers, then square round and looked over the heads of a thousand men and women gaudily dressed, straight at the door, but whichever way that quiet gray eye turned, it was met by the curiosity look of the ladies and office-hunting look of the men. The President's wife sat by him, closely velled, plainly but richly dressed, looking at her hymn book, and reminding every one of a solid matron of a country villaga. The children of the President were in their places, books in hand, singing lymns and praises to the Lord with fervor and earnestness.